

# HOW TO HAVE PRIZE WINNERS AT THE WINTER POULTRY SHOW

Success in Exhibitions Depends Largely Upon the Conditioning of Birds; Extra Care Well Worth While.

Directions Given for Washing the Fowls and for Training Them to Present a Good Appearance.

BY MICHAEL K. BOYER  
Poultry Editor of the Farm Journal.

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This is the time to begin preparing fowls for exhibitions at the winter shows. Only by competing with other fanciers can the amateur gauge the worth of his stock; and when he does compete he cannot take too much pains with the conditioning of the birds. In this article, Mr. Boyer tells how to give the fowls the extra care that often will enable him to secure the prize which otherwise would not have been won.

Exhibit at the winter shows. If you feel that your fowls are of high quality. Do not be afraid of defeat; it is only by exhibiting your birds in competition with those of other fanciers that you will be able to learn definitely where they are weak and study how to improve them. Frequently amateurs who have never exhibited before carry away high honors in some of the largest exhibitions, but generally it is a good rule for the novice to exhibit first at the smaller winter shows. Then when he has had experience in exhibiting, and has learned to know his breed thoroughly, he will be safe in sending his choicest specimens to the larger shows.

The successful exhibitor does not wait until the time of the show before he selects his birds. From chickhood up he is constantly watching them. They are fed carefully and regularly. They are properly sheltered and cared for, and no labor is saved that will give them good, healthy development. The growth is steady. There must be vigor and stamina to grow healthy stock.

As the birds grow, culling must be done repeatedly. Take out of the flock chicks that have crooked spines, crooked breast bones, missing rump, wry tail, crossed beak, defective feathering or any other disqualification. Keep only the best—those that give promise of making a good showing under the standard rules. This will give room for the selected ones, and there will be no danger of overcrowding.

**CONDITIONING IS MOST IMPORTANT.**  
The main thing in showing is to have the fowls in the proper condition when in the showroom. They must be made as gentle as possible so that they may be handled properly and not be frightened while in the cages. Many a good bird has lost a prize for no other reason than that it was wild and excitable in the cage, and would not pose or stand. For two weeks before the exhibition the birds should be placed in a cage so that they may learn to be quiet and not startled when any one approaches them. The value of this fact is illustrated by Judge J. H. Drenth, in the book "Poultry Secrets." Mr. Drenth, a prominent exhibitor at the New York show had imported a fine Black Red Game cockerel from England, took it from the cage, and placed it in a cage. Another exhibitor had a bird of the same variety in a cage close by. When the judge poked his stick into the cage where the English bird was, the latter would try to "fly the coop." In other words, it would not pose nor stand while being examined. The American-bred bird, when touched by the judging stick, knew its business and showed its training by posing nicely, and won the prize. Yet the foreign cockerel was intrinsically far better bird; it simply was not in proper condition to show its superior points when the judge came around.

**HAVE THE BIRDS CLEAN WHEN SHOWN.**  
White birds, it is held, are the hardest classes to judge or exhibit, so conditioning is a very important factor. If the poultryman keeps his premises clean and the floors of the houses well covered with straw, there will be little if any reason for the fowls being soiled. A thorough rubbing of the feathers with a soft cloth to remove any dust that may be on them; the legs carefully oiled and rubbed with sweet oil; and a little vaseline rubbed on the comb and wattles, will be about all that will be necessary.

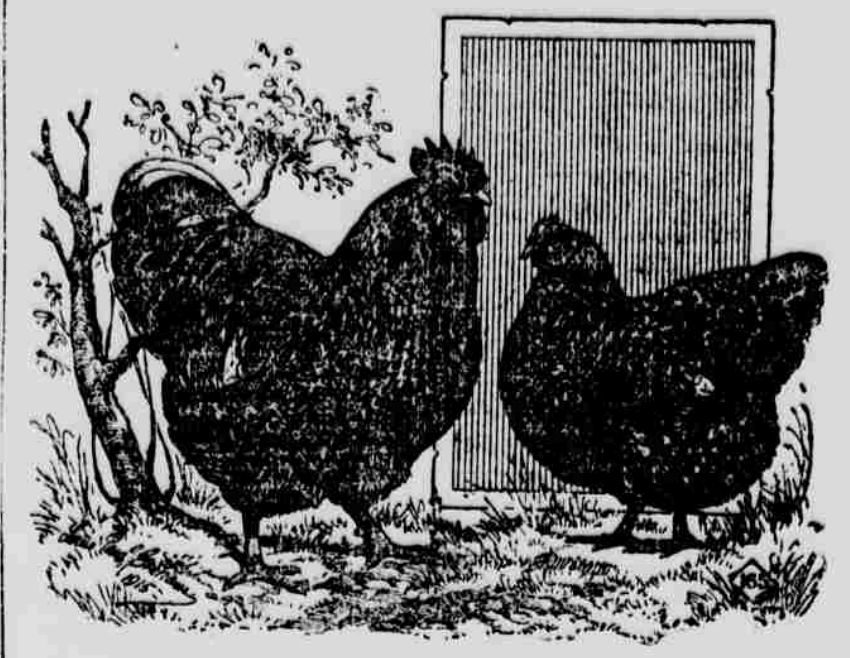
Birds reserved for exhibition should now be placed in clean quarters, and the sexes separated to avoid breeding of feathers. Any broken or off-colored feathers can be plucked, and if done at once the possibility is that they will grow out properly in time for the show. False or off-colored feathers are not necessarily a sign of impurity. In many cases they are caused by growing or injury to the feather when growing.

Another important matter to attend to is to examine the bird carefully to ascertain if there is any vermin present. A thorough dusting with a reliable insect powder (such as a coal tar product) is a good precaution, even if no vermin are seen. Lice are sly and often hard to detect, so that the dusting will be advisable.

I do not think that it is just the right thing to wash birds. If every exhibitor would exercise great care to keep his fowls clean, and then enter them in their natural condition, it would give better satisfaction all around. If I was a poultry judge and found two birds equal in quality, the one naturally white and the other washed, I should surely give the award to the former.

**HOW TO WASH THE FOWLS.**  
But where good birds show dirt on their plumage, washing is the only alternative. For this purpose castile or other white soap and warm water are used. The work must be done in a warm room, so the bird may not catch cold, and after it is through with the operation the fowl should be placed in a roomy coop near a good fire, in a temperature of about 80 or 90 degrees. In a few hours the bird will start to plume itself and be perfectly dry.

In washing the fowl, two tubs are filled half-full with water just hot enough for



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## Single Comb Diamond Jubilee Orpingtons.

Odd but handsome is the coloration of this variety of general purpose fowl originated in England in 1897 and named in honor of Queen Victoria's jubilee. The feathers that often will enable him to secure the prize which otherwise would not have been won.

When full grown the males weigh from 8 to 12 pounds, the females 7 to 8 pounds. They are full breasted and plump from broiler size to maturity, so that they may be killed and dressed profitably at any age. The hens are good layers of

large, tinted eggs, and will become broody, sit and hatch and rear the chicks. The chicks are hardy and make rapid, vigorous growth. The fowls do well in confinement and make an ideal backyard flock—both good looking and profitable.

In many sections of America Orpingtons are as popular as American breeds, such as Plymouth Rocks or Rhode Island Reds. They are shown in large numbers at the leading winter shows, and competition in them is so keen that American fanciers have sent thousands of dollars to England to import fine specimens.

The Diamond Jubilee Orpingtons are not as popular as other varieties of the same breed.

Perhaps the largest and most fitting monument to his wonderful accomplishments is the Alexander Hamilton Institute of New York, which conducts a course of training for business men.

Hamilton as secretary of the treasury was really the first man to establish the credit of the United States. He planned the first bank, devised our monetary system and organized the treasury department and the revenue service. He outlined the government's first accounting system, investigated the industries of the country and planned and directed the early commercial development of the United States.

And because of the signal services rendered his country prominent men throughout the United States have expressed their satisfaction that the famous statesman and financier should be honored in this way.

Ninety-seven electors, among them being the leading men in all professions, comprise the electoral college of the Hall of Fame. This college meets but once every five years. Among the electors this year were former President William H. Taft, Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard, Cyrus Northrup of Minnesota, Andrew B. White of Ithaca, Joseph H. Choate of New York, George F. Edmunds of Philadelphia and James B. Angell of Michigan.

**HOW AMERICAN CITIES GROW.**  
Nobody knows how fast an American city, state or town may grow. I recall some 25 years ago meeting a friend in Denver. He was an investor from the East. I think Denver had about 30,000 people then. He had come to buy real estate. He said to me, "This place is overgrown. Real estate is too high. None for me." And he went away. Had he invested wisely at that time he could have multiplied his money ten to twenty fold. I was in Los Angeles about the same time. It had had a serious reaction after a sudden boom. It was a little place, not one-tenth its present size. It seemed like a doomed city. An investment of \$50 then in outlying acreage, property, I am told, would be worth \$50,000 today. So nobody can tell what may be the future of Seward, Cordova, Anchorage or, in fact, any of the new, wide-awake cities of Alaska. All of them are nearly new and all, from Ketchikan to Nome, have hopes—Leslie's.

**THE SMALL TOWN FAT BOY.**  
"Every small town," writes Helena Smith Dayton in Cartoons Magazine, "has a fat boy. Howard is the name of the fat boy in most small towns. Of course he is never called Howard outside of the home circle. Up to the age of 10 years he is called Fatty and after that he is called Butch. Howard is usually seen munching an apple. His favorite sport is riding around on the grocer's wagon with Bill Chidsey, who delivers. Fatty's father falls heir to a little money and buys a pony, and he is also the most successful winner of rabbits and white mice of any boy in town."

"As a piano player Howard has it all over any of Miss Haskell's other pupils and twice a week all winter you could see his big broad rubbers reposing outside his door."

**COCOA AS CURRENCY.**  
(From the London Chronicle.)  
Cocoa passed as currency among the natives of Central and South America at the time of the European conquest, and that despite a plentiful supply of gold. Joseph Acosta, in 1619, tells us that Indians used "none of their gold or silver for traffic in or buy withal, and until this day the custom continues among them that instead of money they use cocoa." The Aztecs of ancient Mexico also used "cocoa" as small change, as many as 800 beans being counted legal tender. The value of the beans may be judged from the fact that "a tolerably good slave" could be purchased for 100 of them.

**HAMILTON AN IMMORTAL**  
Famous Statesman and Financier Elected to Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame of New York University has welcomed into its ranks those of its ranks. Those elected are: Alexander Hamilton, statesman; Louis Agassiz, naturalist; Francis Parkman, historian; Mark Hopkins, educator; Elias Howe, inventor; Daniel Boone, pioneer; Rufus Choate, lawyer; Joseph Henry, scientist; and Charlotte Cushman, actress.

The Hall of Fame is famous for its manner of showing respect to the great men of America. It consists of the main building of New York University, at University Heights, New York city, in which are the Bronze Plate memorials of the men.

In spite of the real greatness of Hamilton and the great value of his services to this country there are comparatively very few memorials erected to his memory,

and hostility of Russian diplomacy. He lived in a world of melodramatic plots, kidnappings, assassinations, secret treaties. He survived and his survival gave him the assurance that by one expedient or another he could always play with his domestic opposition and his foreign adversaries.

The truth is, that it was the foreign adversary who saved him from the domestic opposition. If Russian diplomacy could have concealed its dislike of King Ferdinand, the Bulgarian people would long ago have got rid of him. But because Russian diplomacy too openly advertised its distrust and too incautiously suggested his removal, the Bulgars rallied to him. They saw in him the standard-bearer of their independence, and confided to him an authority which he has recklessly abused.—The New Republic.

**WONDERS OF TELEPHONING**  
"Hello" Leaps across Continent in One-Fifteenth of Second.

A telephone conversation is an instantaneous process. Sound travels at the snail's pace of 1,100 feet per second, but the telephone message leaps over the wire at the rate of 5,000 miles per second. A "hello" traveling through the air at the ordinary sound rate, if such a thing were possible, from New York to San Francisco would make the trip in four hours. The faintest "hello" into the transmitter at New York strikes clear and distinct upon the ear of the receiver in San Francisco just one-fifteenth of a second later. A breath against a metal disc, changes air waves into electrical currents, and these, in less than the proverbial twinkling of an eye, reproduce, at the other end of the line, more than 3,000 miles away, identical sound waves.

On its merely physical side the task of linking the coasts by wire has been gigantic. The Panama canal, regarded as one of the wonders of the ages, was begun nine years ago and has cost \$100,000,000. In the same time the Bell Telephone company has spent twice that amount in its engineering construction work alone. On its transcontinental line crossing 13 states 120,000 poles are used to carry four hard-drawn copper wires, 355 inch in diameter, the wires in the entire line weighing 5,500 tons.

Wireless service is the goal toward which the American Telephone and Telegraph company has been working for years, and in this latest achievement the company renders an account of its stewardship. President Vail and his able co-workers may well take pride in having built up the vastest, the best and the most universal telephone service in the world.

Connecting 13,000,000 miles of wire, covering 3,000,000 telephone stations throughout the length and breadth of the United States. And while the scientific world is still applauding this feat the same company develops wireless telephony to carry the sound of the voice from the Atlantic seaboard to Hawaii.—Charlton Bates Strayer in Leslie's.

**Did You Ever Notice?**  
Who make up the bulk of the congregations in the churches? It is the women. Who make up the crowds around the street corners and drinking places? It is the men.

Who safeguard the home and mould the members of the family circle? It is the women. Who keep the tongues of discontent busy? It is the men.

Who nurse the sick on battle-field and in hospital? It is the women. Who plunge the nation into murderous wars? It is the men.

Who stand for civic honesty, truth and integrity? It is the women. Who corrupt our politics with ignorance, profligacy and graft? It is the men.

Who demand an opportunity to raise official standards? It is the women. Who oppose these demands of patriotic and enlightened women? It is the men. Let this thing men and woman rule!—John A. Schleicher in Leslie's.

**ANGLO-SAXON APPLES.**  
A curious testimony of the importance formerly attached to the apple may be found in the coronation service of our Anglo-Saxon kings. The coronation benediction runs: "May the Almighty bless thee with the blessing of grapes and apples . . . by his blessing may this land be filled with apples, with the fruit and dew of heaven, from the top of the ancient mountains, from the apples of the eternal hills."—London Chronicle.

**REPORT ON GEMS.**  
The United States Geological Survey now has available for distribution its annual statement on gems and precious stones in 1914. The precious stones produced in the United States during that year are valued at \$124,651. A supply of good quality, which was cut into a gem weighing 1-3 carats, was discovered in the gravel along the shore of Lake Okoboji, Dickinson county, Iowa, in 1914. It is described as resembling a piece of blue bottle glass worn round and smooth by attrition and is stated to be the cornucopia variety and to have good, velvety lustre. This gem was probably transported to the Lake Okoboji region by ice during the glacial period along with a large variety of other minerals and rocks, and its original home can only be surmised.

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**VERMONT APPLES LEADING.**  
(From the Bennington Banner.)  
The showing made by Vermont apple growers at the New England apple show is fairly astonishing when we consider that high grade apple culture in Vermont is still in its infancy. Not only did the Vermont apples show up better than those from other New England States but they were superior in size, coloring and flavor to selected exhibits from the great apple growing districts of the Pacific coast. Even in varieties like the Jonathan and Delicious which are as common as western apples, Vermont apples were shown to be superior. The Vermont showing of these varieties proved superior. The great Everett orchards at Bennington found themselves barred on so large that they were above standard and shut out under the rules which fixed the standard of size for each variety. Several Vermont apples were packed, but they were not able to correct the false impression. It is not too much to say that Vermont has probably the best apple land in the whole United States and sooner or later this great resource, which the State will be developed.

**FERDINAND OF BULGARIA.**  
Brilliant Monarch Has Recklessly Abused Authority Given Him.  
There is certainly no abler man on any European throne, and one may doubt whether even the Kaiser's personality has a stronger vein of imagination and of self-will. An "intellectual" among kings, governed by an ambition which ranges from the minor vanities to an imperial megalomania. It is his folly to contrast the superiority of his own gifts over those of his brother kings with the narrowness of the scope for their exercise.

A really brilliant man, a scientist and a worker, he has persuaded himself that the magnificent development of the people whom he rules is in fact his own work. To give it a daring and dramatic completion, to make its quantity as impressive as its quality, to restore by his own gift of statecraft the old empire of the Bulgarian Tsars, that is the dream which led King Ferdinand into the avoidable adventure of the second Balkan war, and the still more reckless and incautious gamble of his present policy.

The adroitness, the subtlety, the power of management of this formidable but sinister personality has been his undoing.

An aristocrat and a savant, he wielded from the first an intoxicating ascendancy over the simple peasant politicians with whom he has had to deal. He was not popular; he was not trusted. He was often opposed, bluntly and stubbornly, as the Bulgarian manner is. He had against him all through his reign the suspicion

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An aristocrat and a savant, he wielded from the first an intoxicating ascendancy over the simple peasant politicians with whom he has had to deal. He was not popular; he was not trusted. He was often opposed, bluntly and stubbornly, as the Bulgarian manner is. He had against him all through his reign the suspicion

and hostility of Russian diplomacy. He lived in a world of melodramatic plots, kidnappings, assassinations, secret treaties. He survived and his survival gave him the assurance that by one expedient or another he could always play with his domestic opposition and his foreign adversaries.

The truth is, that it was the foreign adversary who saved him from the domestic opposition. If Russian diplomacy could have concealed its dislike of King Ferdinand, the Bulgarian people would long ago have got rid of him. But because Russian diplomacy too openly advertised its distrust and too incautiously suggested his removal, the Bulgars rallied to him. They saw in him the standard-bearer of their independence, and confided to him an authority which he has recklessly abused.—The New Republic.

**WONDERS OF TELEPHONING**  
"Hello" Leaps across Continent in One-Fifteenth of Second.

A telephone conversation is an instantaneous process. Sound travels at the snail's pace of 1,100 feet per second, but the telephone message leaps over the wire at the rate of 5,000 miles per second. A "hello" traveling through the air at the ordinary sound rate, if such a thing were possible, from New York to San Francisco would make the trip in four hours. The faintest "hello" into the transmitter at New York strikes clear and distinct upon the ear of the receiver in San Francisco just one-fifteenth of a second later. A breath against a metal disc, changes air waves into electrical currents, and these, in less than the proverbial twinkling of an eye, reproduce, at the other end of the line, more than 3,000 miles away, identical sound waves.

On its merely physical side the task of linking the coasts by wire has been gigantic. The Panama canal, regarded as one of the wonders of the ages, was begun nine years ago and has cost \$100,000,000. In the same time the Bell Telephone company has spent twice that amount in its engineering construction work alone. On its transcontinental line crossing 13 states 120,000 poles are used to carry four hard-drawn copper wires, 355 inch in diameter, the wires in the entire line weighing 5,500 tons.

Wireless service is the goal toward which the American Telephone and Telegraph company has been working for years, and in this latest achievement the company renders an account of its stewardship. President Vail and his able co-workers may well take pride in having built up the vastest, the best and the most universal telephone service in the world.

Connecting 13,000,000 miles of wire, covering 3,000,000 telephone stations throughout the length and breadth of the United States. And while the scientific world is still applauding this feat the same company develops wireless telephony to carry the sound of the voice from the Atlantic seaboard to Hawaii.—Charlton Bates Strayer in Leslie's.

**Did You Ever Notice?**  
Who make up the bulk of the congregations in the churches? It is the women. Who make up the crowds around the street corners and drinking places? It is the men.